GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:118
ANSWERED ON:01.08.2011
INDO MALAYSIA CECA AGREEMENT
Mitra Shri Somendra Nath

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether India-Malaysia Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (CECA) has been concluded;

(b) if so, the benefits likely to accrue to India by the agreement on Trade in Services chapter;

(c) the specific services sectors for which India have taken commitments that are more than the India`s Revised Offer at the WTO; and

(d) whether the Government has made any arrangements by themselves or through Industry Associations for its publicities so that Indian businessmen are benefited as a result of this agreement?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA)

(a): Yes, Madam. The India-Malaysia Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (CECA) was signed on 18-2-2011 and it has come into effect from 1st July 2011.

(b)& (c): Under Trade in Services, Malaysia's offer to India is significant both in terms of sectoral coverage as well as depth within each sector/sub-sector. Malaysia has offered commitments in the categories of Contractual Service suppliers (CSS) and Independent Professionals (IP) in commercially meaningful sectors including accounting and auditing, architecture, urban planning, engineering services, medical and dental, nursing and pharmacy, computer and related services (CRS), management Consulting Services etc. Malaysia has offered substantive commitments in the area of cross border supply of services, which is of benefit for our Information Technology (IT) and Information Technology Enabled Services (ITES) industry. India's offer is not more liberal than its revised offer at the WTO, except in telecom sector where foreign equity of 51% has been offered as against 49% in the revised offer at the WTO. However this foreign equity of 51% is still below India's autonomous FDI policy in Telecom Sector.

(d): Yes, Madam. The entire text and annexures of the India-Malaysia CECA, have been placed in public domain at http://commerce.gov.in/trade/IMCECA/title.pdf. All the Export Promotion Councils and Industry Associations have also been given information regarding the Agreement and meetings held to disseminate this information.